

PROVIDING FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN
PROPERTY IN ALABAMA

MARCH 26, 1958.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered
to be printed

Mr. DURHAM, from the Committee on Armed Services, submitted
the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 9362]

The Committee on Armed Services, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9362) to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to Post 924, Veterans of Foreign Wars, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 1, lines 4 and 5, strike the words "Veterans of Foreign Wars" and insert in lieu thereof the words "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States".

Page 1, lines 9 and 10, strike the words "within three years after the date of enactment of this Act".

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain real property
of the United States to Post 924, Veterans of Foreign Wars of
the United States.

EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENT

The bill in its original form stated that payment for the property would be made to the United States "within three years after the date of enactment of this Act". The committee felt that this would be inconsistent with bills of this general type which have been approved by the Congress in the past. It also appeared that there was no particular requirement that this 3-year period for payment be granted.

The amendment relating to the name of the recipient organization is designed merely to state the name as such appears in its constitution.

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PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill is to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Army to convey to the George N. Meredith Post 924, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Anniston, Ala., a parcel of land containing 3.5 acres at Fort McClellan, Ala. The conveyance would be made upon payment of the fair market value of the property, with the funds to be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

BACKGROUND OF THE BILL

The property that would be conveyed, as described in section 2 of the bill, is within the area originally acquired during World War I for the establishment of the Fort McClellan Military Reservation in Calhoun County, Ala. In support of the establishment of the fort, the Chamber of Commerce of Anniston, Ala., entered into a contract with the United States to convey approximately 14,000 acres of land for \$130,000. Provision was made for conveyance of additional tracts as Federal funds became available therefor with the total price not to exceed \$254,000. The prorated cost of the property described in H. R. 9362 is estimated at \$175. The land involved is no longer required for use by Fort McClellan or for any other Department of Defense purpose.

FISCAL DATA

Enactment into law of this measure will not involve the expenditure of any Federal funds.

DEPARTMENTAL DATA

Neither the Department of the Army, on behalf of the Department of Defense, nor the Bureau of the Budget has any objection to the enactment into law of this measure as is evidenced by letter dated December 18, 1957, from Secretary of the Army Wilber M. Brucker which is set out below and made a part of this report.

DECEMBER 18, 1957.

HON. CARL VINSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,
House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense with respect to H. R. 9362, 85th Congress, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to Post 924, Veterans of Foreign Wars. The Secretary of Defense has delegated to the Department of the Army the responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense thereon.

The purpose of this bill is to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Army to convey to the George N. Meredith Post 924, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Anniston, Ala., a parcel of land containing 3.5 acres at Fort McClellan, Ala. The conveyance would be made upon payment of fair market value within 3 years after date of enactment with the funds to be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

The Department of the Army, on behalf of the Department of Defense, is not opposed to the enactment of this measure.

The property that would be conveyed as described in section 2 of the bill is within the area originally acquired during World War I for the establishment of the Fort McClellan Military Reservation in Calhoun County, Ala. In support of the establishment of the fort, the Chamber of Commerce of Anniston, Ala., entered into a contract with the United States to convey approximately 14,000 acres of land for \$130,000. Provision was made for conveyance of additional tracts as Federal funds became available therefor with the total price not to exceed \$254,000. The prorated cost of the property described in H. R. 9362 is estimated at \$175.

The land involved is no longer required for use by Fort McClellan or for any other Department of Defense purpose. Accordingly, administrative action is underway to report to General Services Administration the 3.5 acres involved for reassignment or disposal in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377). That act provides a method by which the property involved can be disposed of, including administrative action for its sale to the George N. Meredith Post 924, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Although it appears therefore that further legislation is not necessary, the Department of the Army, on behalf of the Department of Defense, will interpose no objection to any disposal deemed appropriate since the property described in H. R. 9362 is not required for any Department of Defense purpose. However, it is suggested that the committee may desire to obtain the views of the Administrator of General Services, who has primary responsibility for the utilization and disposal of excess and surplus Federal property.

The enactment of this measure will not involve the expenditure of any Department of Defense funds.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

WILBER M. BRUCKER,
Secretary of the Army.

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